



13 April 2022

Dear Sir,

21/05119/LAORD | Prior approval under Part 18 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 of the design and siting of the proposed works comprising: Erection of three new 16-person lift shafts, one to platforms 1/2, one to platforms 3/4 and the other on the other side of platform 1/2, erection of one new stairwell on the far side of platform 1/2; and erection of one steel footbridge between the lifts. | Shortlands Railway Station Shortlands Road Shortlands Bromley BR2 0JA

We **object** to the appearance of the proposed works.

The appearance of the lift towers, bridge and stairwell would not 'preserve or enhance the character or appearance' of the new Shortlands Village Conservation Area.

Indeed, we are disappointed that after site visits and discussions, National Rail have not produced a more sympathetic design or indeed provided sufficient information to assess the design that they have produced

As things stand, the applicant has only provided the bare outline of what is proposed. Few details of materials, including texture and colour have been provided. Precise architectural detailing is missing. All these things matter in a Conservation Area.

It is not clear what is planned in detail. For example new windows and doors are shown at platform level. Are these real windows or blanks? Will the frames of the windows match existing? What colour will the doors be? Shortlands Railway Station has been recommended to be a locally listed building (why hasn't this progressed?) and any alterations to the structure need to be sympathetic and carefully matched.

With regard to the towers themselves, whilst we note a small improvement in previous designs, they still look overbearing, incongruous and imposing on the street scene (and indeed when viewed from the platforms). Massive, monolithic edifices that do nothing to enhance the Conservation Area. Given the overall cost of the project, we do not believe that there would be significant costs involved in providing exceptional architecture for these towers.

There is no soft landscaping scheme by which the appearance of the towers could be softened for example by the use of tall Leylandii.

Yours faithfully